



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Wells, et al. Docket No: 39750-0002DV1
Serial No: 09/981,547 Group Art Unit: 1639
Filed: October 17, 2001 Examiner: Epperson, Jon D

For: **METHODS FOR RAPIDLY IDENTIFYING SMALL ORGANIC MOLECULE
LIGANDS FOR BINDING TO BIOLOGICAL TARGET MOLECULES**

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

MS: No-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Dear Sir:

The present Amendment and Response is filed concurrently with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and addresses the Office Action mailed on July 10, 2003 in connection with the above-identified patent application (Paper No. 13).

Please enter the following amendments, and consider the following remarks.

In the Claims

1.-57. (Previously canceled)

58. (Currently amended) A method of identifying a ligand non-oligomeric organic compound less than 2000 daltons in size, that ~~binds covalently to a chemically reactive group at a site of interest on a target protein to form a target protein-ligand conjugate, comprising detecting the formation of said target protein-ligand conjugate by mass spectrometry analysis~~ has the greatest relative affinity for a target protein comprising:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.10(a))

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" - Rule 10: I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on October 9, 2003 with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" under 37 CFR 1.10 as **Express Mail No. EV346725596US** addressed to: Mail Stop: No-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: October 9, 2003


Cheryl Ann Rogers